

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 21-36, without prejudice.

Following is a complete listing of the claims pending in the application, as amended.

1. (previously presented) In a method of treating a viral disease in a mammal responsive to treatment by ovine interferon-tau (IFN τ), an improvement comprising orally administering a therapeutically-effective amount of bovine IFN τ through oral ingestion.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein IFN τ is orally-administered at a dosage of greater than about 1×10^5 units per day.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein IFN τ is orally-administered at a dosage of greater than about 1×10^6 units per day.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the bovine IFN τ has an amino acid sequence homology of at least about 80% with an ovine IFN τ (OvIFN τ) amino acid sequence.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said bovine IFN τ has a sequence homology of at least about 80% with an ovine IFN τ sequence represented as SEQ ID NO:2.

Claims 6-7 (canceled)

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said mammal is a human.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said mammal is a dog.

Claims 10-19 (canceled)

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the mammal is a domesticated animal.

Claims 21-36 (canceled)